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UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #496

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING - NATIONAL FARM & HOME HOUR

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

WRITER

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1942

DAY & DATE

TIME

11:30-12:00 A.M. BLUE

PRODUCTION NOTESCHARACTERSCASTSOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Production Director

Announcer

Agency Producer or Announcer

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BLUE NETWORK COMBINATION

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS 4496

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Approved by: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Approved by: _____
Director

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers! if I could just get my hands on
 2. MUSIC: THEME that started this fire... Look at that young pine,
 3. ANNOUNCER: Year in and year out, whenever and wherever forest officers
 4. meet and talk, the subject of Forest Fires always comes up. In
 5. JIM: peaceful times, there was plenty of need for preventing forest
 6. fires because of the damage they cause through loss of timber,
 7. through reduced wildlife, impoverished soil and the many other
 8. factors involving the economic welfare of our country. But now
 9. that we are at war, not only do these same evils hold true but
 10. JERRY: even greater evils are possible through widespread forest fires.
 11. We cannot afford, literally, to lose a single stick of timber
 12. JIM: needed for the war effort; we cannot afford to have the
 13. productive capacity of our forests cut down in the slightest
 14. degree; we cannot afford to have to divert war workers to the
 15. unproductive jobs of fighting forest fires; we cannot afford to
 16. have our forest industries and other industries endangered by
 17. JERRY: fire. We just can't afford forest fires these days..... So let's
 18. all of us, let's each one of us, remember if we get near or go
 19. JIM: into any forest area this summer: The need for preventing forest
 20. fires is greater than ever before. Jerry, what do you make of
 21. Now to the Pine Cone National Forest where Ranger Jim Robbins
 22. JERRY: and his assistant, Jerry Quick, with the help of a local crew,
 23. have just stopped a forest fire that blackened a large area in
 24. Wagon Canyon. Now, with their crew at work mopping up the fire,
 25. Jim and Jerry are making their way through the smoke along the
 fire line, hunting for the place where the fire started and for
 other tell-tale evidence. Here they are..

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

THEME

Year in and year out, whenever and wherever forest officers

meet and talk, the subject of forest fires always comes up. In peaceful times, there was plenty of need for preventing forest fires because of the damage they cause through loss of timber, through reduced wildlife, impoverished soil and the many other factors involving the economic welfare of our country. But now that we are at war, not only do these same evils hold true but even greater evils are possible through widespread forest fires. We cannot afford, literally, to lose a single stick of timber

needed for the war effort; we cannot afford to have the

productive capacity of our forests cut down in the slightest

degree; we cannot afford to have so many war workers to the

unproductive job of fighting forest fires; we cannot afford to

have our forest industries and other industries endangered by

fire. We just can't afford forest fires these days.... So let

all of us, let's each one of us, remember if we get near or go

into any forest area this summer: The need for preventing forest

fires is greater than ever before.

Now to the Pine Cone National Forest where Ranger Jim Robbins

and his assistant, Jerry Gutz, with the help of a local crew,

have just stopped a forest fire that blackened a large area in

Wagon Canyon. Now, with their crew at work mopping up the fire

Jim and Jerry are making their way through the smoke along the

fire line, hunting for the place where the fire started and for

other tell-tale evidence. Here they are.

ANNOUNCER:

MUSIC:

ANNOUNCER:

1. JERRY: (FADING IN) I tell you, Jim, if I could just get my hands on
2. JERRY: the guy that started this fire...Look at that young pine,
3. there.... Burned to a crisp! There won't be any pine lumber ever
4. JIM: come out of that tree.
5. JIM: Yeah. One of our men told me he run across a young deer back
6. a ways. The little fellow didn't quite make it in his race
7. JERRY: with the flames.. But what I'm thinking about is what would
8. have happened if this fire spread across the mountain to the
9. JIM: other side.
10. JERRY: Yeah, that woulda been a mess for sure, Jim. We got to find
11. JERRY: some clues.
12. JIM: Well, we've come almost clear around the line without picking
13. up anything. I reckon we'll have to do some looking around
14. JIM: inside the fire area soon. as....Wait a minute. We better
15. heave this log back into the burn, Jerry. It's still kinda hot
16. JERRY: one one end, see.
17. JERRY: Yeah. Might spread some fire 'cross the line...I'll take the
18. JIM: smoking end, Jim. You grab the other.
19. JIM: Ready? Heave (WITH A GRUNT). Now...once more (GRUNTS) Over she
20. goes...(CRASH) H-m-m. Look here, Jerry. What do you make of
21. that?
22. JERRY: It looks like what's left of a campfire, Jim. Yep, look at the
23. JIM: ends of these sticks. Burned clean to ashes here and just
24. scorched on the other ends...This is it, Jim, This is it...
25. Somebody set this fire against the log and it spread from the
log to the woods.

JERRY: (FADING IN) I tell you, Jim, if I could just get my hands on the guy that started this fire... look at that young pine, there... Burned to a crisp! There won't be any pine lumber ever come out of that tree.

JIM: Yeah. One of our men told me he run across a young deer back a ways. The little fellow didn't quite make it in his race with the flames. But what I'm thinking about is what would have happened if this fire spread across the mountain to the other side.

JERRY: Yeah, that woulda been a mess for sure, Jim. We got to find some clues.

JIM: Well, we've come almost clear around the line without picking up anything. I reckon we'll have to do some looking around inside the fire area soon. aa... Wait a minute. We better heave this log back into the burn, Jerry. It's still kinda hot one one end, see.

JERRY: Yeah. Might spread some fire 'cross the line... I'll take the smoking end. Jim, you grab the other.

JIM: Ready? Heave (WITH A GRUNT). Now... once more (GRUNT). Over she goes... (GRUNT) H-m-m. Look here, Jerry. What do you make of that?

JERRY: It looks like what's left of a campfire, Jim. Yep, look at the ends of these sticks. Burned clean to ashes here and just scorched on the other ends... This is it, Jim. This is it... Somebody set this fire against the log and it spread from the log to the woods.

1. JIM: Looks like it.

2. JERRY: Hey...what've you got there, Jim? Oh, just a piece of leather

3. strap, huh?

4. JIM: A kinda special piece of burned leather, maybe, Jerry. Looks

5. like it came off somebody's saddle. See how it's worn on one

6. edge from rubbin'?

7. JERRY: Yep. And it looks like it was slashed off from the rest of the

8. saddle strap with a sharp knife.

9. JIM: Uh huh. Somebody had his saddle lyin' here and part of the

10. strap got burned.

11. JERRY: Well, if there was a saddle here, there must've been a horse

12. around some where, too. I'm going to scout around in the brush,

13. Jim.

14. JIM: Good idea. Looks like whoever make this campfire, knew it set

15. the woods afire and tried to cover up his tracks.

16. JERRY: Yeah. Did a good job of it, too. If it hadn't been for that

17. log we'd have passed this place up.

18. JIM: Uh huh. Go ahead, Jerry. I'll poke around farther (FADE OUT)

19. up the line.

20. PAUSE:

21. JERRY: (CALLING FROM OFF) Jim! Oh, Jim! Come here. Quick!

22. CRASHING THROUGH BRUSH

23. JIM: Coming Jerry. What've you got, son?

24.

25.

JIM: Looks like it.

JERRY: Hey... what've you got there, Jim? Oh, just a piece of leather strap, huh?

JIM: A kinda special piece of burned leather, maybe, Jerry. Looks like it came off somebody's saddle. See how it's worn on one edge from rubbing?

JERRY: Yep. And it looks like it was splashed off from the rest of the saddle strap with a sharp knife.

JIM: Uh huh. Somebody had his saddle lyin' here and part of the strap got burned.

JERRY: Well, if there was a saddle here, there must've been a horse around some where, too. I'm going to scout around in the brush.

JIM: Jim.

JIM: Good idea. Looks like whoever made this campfire, knew it set the woods afire and tried to cover up his tracks.

JERRY: Yeah. Did a good job of it, too. If it hadn't been for that log we'd have passed this place up.

JIM: Uh huh. Go ahead, Jerry. I'll poke around farther (FADE OUT) up the line.

PAUSE

JERRY: (CALLING FROM OFF) Jim! Oh, Jim! Come here, quick!

CRASHING THROUGH BRUSH

JIM: Coming Jerry. What've you got, son?

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JERRY: (COMING ON) A whole mess of stuff, Jim. Right here in the bushes. Soon as you check over all this stuff, I want you to take a look at some tracks I found, too.

JIM: Well, you got quite a haul, Jerry. Seems like our friends, whoever they are, didn't let their campfire spread on purpose any way. They took a beating themselves.

JERRY: Maybe so. But carelessness is no excuse these days.

JIM: Let's see. H-m-m. That old jacket's too far gone to be much good to us, but these saddle blankets aint burned so bad.

JERRY: There's some hairs on 'em, Jim....see?

JIM: Right. This one came off a gray horse. See the gray-white hairs? And the other one's been on a bay or sorrel critter, See?

JERRY: Now all we've got to do is find the horses then. A swell job that'll be in a million-acre country.

JIM: You said somethin' about tracks.

JERRY: Oh yes. Right over here, Jim....See?

JIM: H-m-m. They had the horses here, all right. And there's boot tracks, Jerry. Looks like there were two people in the party...

JERRY: Yeah. One was a big bozo, see?

JIM: Yeah. But those other tracks there are pretty small...looks almost like a boy's shoe.

JERRY: Well, what do we do now, Jim?

JIM: You head back to the crew fast as you can, Jerry. Tell Bob Mitchell he's fire boss 'til we get back. Then come on back here. We got some tracking (FADE) to do...

JERRY: (COOKING) I'm a little out of control, but I'm not in the
business. Look at you, you're over all this stuff. I want you to
take a look at some tracks I found, too.
JIM: Well, you got quite a haul, Jerry. Seems like our friends,
whoever they are, didn't let their campfire spread on anyone
any way. They took a beating themselves.
JERRY: Maybe so. But whatever there is no excuse these days.
JIM: Let's see. Well, that old jacket's too far gone to be much
good for us, but these saddle blankets that turned so bad
there's some hats on 'em, Jim... see?
JIM: Right. This one was all a gray horse. See the gray-white
hair? And the other one's been on a bay or sorrel duster. See
how all the way out to us is find the horse then. A swell job
that'll be in a million-acre country.
JIM: You said something about timbers.
JERRY: On yee. Right over here, Jim... see?
JIM: Well, they had the horses here, all right. And there's horse
tracks. Jerry, look. The horse were fit people in the party.
JERRY: Yeah. One was a big horse, see?
JIM: Yeah. But those other tracks there are pretty small. Look.
almost like a boy's horse.
JERRY: Well, what do we do now, Jim?
JIM: You head back to the new tent as you see, Jerry. Tell Bob
Mitchell he's the man. Tell we get back. Then come on back here
We got some tracing (PAUSE) to do...

1. PAUSE

2. FADE IN FOOTSTEPS

3. JERRY: Whew! We've sure come a long way, Jim.

4. JIM: Yep.

5. JERRY: And, mister, you're some tracker, believe me, I'd never have
6. found these tracks going over those rocky stretches.

7. JIM: We're heading into Devil's Cove now, Jerry. Far as I know there's
8. only one racher living down there. Fellow by the name of Roy
9. Haskin.

10. JERRY: He's our baby, Jim.

11. JIM: Haskin's wife is dead. Best I recall he's got a daughter and a
12. son living with him.

13. JERRY: Then I guess it's him and the boy we're after.

14. JIM: Maybe. But we'll have to go easy. (FADE) Come on....

15. SLIGHT PAUSE

16. ROY: (FADING IN) (ANGRY) Listen, Robbins. You ain't got no call
17. busting in here accusing honest folks of setting the forest
18. afire. I tell you me and my girl, Ruth, here, we went up the
19. mountain to cut down a bee tree. So you're right about those
20. tracks. They was our horses. Sure. But that's all you're right
21. about.

22. JIM: What about the camp fire, Mr. Haskin?

23. ROY: We didn't aim to do any camping I tell yuh. And we didn't camp
24. up there in Wagon Canyon. We didn't camp anywhere.

25. JIM: Where's your boy, Mr. Haskin?

PAUSE

FADE IN FOOTSTEPS

JERRY: Shew! We've sure come a long way, Jim.

JIM: Yep.

JERRY: And, mister, you're none the wiser, believe me, I'd never have

found these trucks going over those rocky stretches.

JIM: We're heading into Duff's Cove now, Jerry. For as I know that

only one road is going down there, I follow by the name of dog

headings.

JERRY: He's our baby, Jim.

JIM: Mackin's wife is dead. Hear I recall he's got a daughter and a

son living with him.

JERRY: Then I guess it's him and the boy we're after.

JIM: Right, but we'll have to be sure. (SINGS) Come on...

SILVER PAUSE

BOY: (SINGING IN) (SINGING) (SINGING) You ain't got no call

treating an over-acting housewife to talk of setting the house

alright. I tell you we had my girl, baby, here, we went on the

mountain to our own bee tree. So you're right about these

trucks. They are our house. Sure, but that's all you're right

about.

JIM: That about one song, Mr. Mackin?

BOY: No, sir. I'm sorry I said that. And we didn't come

up there in the first place. We didn't want to.

JIM: Where's your boy, Mr. Mackin?

1. RUTH: (PROUD) Tom's working for Uncle Sam now, Mr. Robbins. He's
2. working in a munitions factory some where. He won't even tell
3. us where it is.

4. JERRY: Aw, now, what kind of a story is that, Miss Haskin?

5. JIM: Wait a minute, Jerry...Look, Haskin. I reckon you won't have an
6. objection to showin' us your saddle, will you? And your saddle
7. blankets?

8. ROY: I don't see what they got to do with this...but I'll get 'em.
9. I ain't afraid to show you anything I got on my place even
10. though I don't think you've got any right to see 'em.

11. JIM: I'm just aiming to save you trouble later on, Haskin.

12. ROY: They're in the house. (GOING OFF) I'll go get 'em.

13. JIM: Miss Haskin?

14. RUTH: Yes sir?

15. JIM: I'm sorry I have to bring you into this, but are you sure now
16. that all you and your father did up there in the forest was to
17. cut down a bee tree?

18. RUTH: (WEAKLY) Yes sir.

19. JIM: Jerry, I want you to take down notes of everything that goes
20. on here.

21. JERRY: Right, Jim.

22. ROY: (COMING ON) Here's my saddle, Robbins, and the blankets. But
23. what you wanta see 'em for is more'n I can....

24. JERRY: Look, Jim....See that saddle strap?

25.

1. (1900) For a moment for Uncle Sam now Mr. Robinson has
2. working in a machine factory some where. He don't even call
3. us where it is.
4. Jerry: Aw, now, what kind of a story is that, Miss Haskin?
5. Jim: Well a minute, Jerry. Look, Haskin. I reckon you won't have an
6. objection to showing us your saddle, will you? And your saddle
7. blanket?
8. Roy: I don't see what that has got to do with this... but I'll get 'em.
9. I ain't afraid to show you anything I got on my place ever
10. though I don't think you've got any right to see 'em.
11. Jim: I'm just ailing around you trouble later on, Haskin.
12. Roy: There's in the house (GOING OUT) I'll go get 'em.
13. Jim: Miss Haskin?
14. Ruth: Yes sir?
15. Jim: I'm sorry I have to bring you into this, but you see how
16. that all you and your father did up there in the forest was to
17. cut down a bee tree?
18. Ruth: (WEAKLY) Yes sir.
19. Jim: Jerry, I want you to take down notes of everything that goes
20. on here.
21. Jerry: Right, Jim.
22. Roy: (GOING IN) Here's my saddle, Robinson, and the cinch. But
23. what you wants me to do for is horse? I can...
24. Jerry: Look, Jim... See that saddle strap?

1. JIM: Yeah, Jerry.... Look, Haskin. See this piece of saddle strap
2. I found up there at the fire? Looks like it's a part of this
3. strap on your saddle, doesn't it? The cut ends sure go together
4. don't they?

5. ROY: (BLOWING UP) You ranger fellers are trying to frame me. You...
6. you...you must've sneaked in and cut that strap yourself. I
7. never cut that strap.

8. RUTH: Pa...Pa, listen.

9. ROY: You shut up, Ruth.

10. JERRY: And what about these blankets, Haskin? You must've gotten 'em
11. off a bed, they're so clean. You can't tell us these just came
12. off a horse.

13. JIM: Well, what do you say, Haskin? You going to tell us what did
14. happen up there in Wagon Canyon?

15. ROY: I ain't tellin' you nothin'. 'Cept you ain't got any right to..

16. JIM: You might be interested in knowing, Haskin, that if we hadn't
17. stopped that fire in the canyon it woulda spread across the
18. mountain and we'd a had a lot more than just a forest fire on
19. our hands.

20. RUTH: What do you mean?

21. ROY: I told you to keep still, Ruth. They're just trying to make us
22. believe somethin' that ain't so. There ain't nothin' across
23. those mountains....Now you get out of here, both of you.
24.
25.

1. JIM: Well, I don't see any place of any kind there.
2. I found up there at the first looks like it's a part of the
3. strip on your wall, doesn't it? The end and end of the
4. don't they?
5. ROY: (BLINDING UP) You know, fellows are trying to frame me. You
6. you. You must've noticed in and out that other yourself.
7. never out that strip.
8. RUTH: Well, listen.
9. ROY: You shut up, Ruth.
10. JERRY: And what about those fellows, Harkins? You must've gotten
11. off a bed, they're as clean. You can't tell me where just
12. off a horse.
13. JIM: Well, what do you say, Harkins? You going to tell us what did
14. happen up there in Wagon Canyon?
15. ROY: I ain't telling you nothing. (Gets you ain't got any right to
16. You might be interested in knowing, listen, that if we hadn't
17. stopped that time in the canyon if we had spread horses like
18. mountains and we had a lot more than just a horse like on
19. our hands.
20. RUTH: What do you mean?
21. ROY: I told you to keep still, Ruth. They're just trying to make
22. believe something, that ain't no horse and nothing around
23. those mountains. You get out of here, back of you.
24.
25.

1. JIM: O.K. But we'll be back, Haskin. We'll be back and there'll be
2. no question about our authority either. With the evidence we
3. got I reckon we won't have much trouble in establishing
4. responsibility for that Wagon Canyon fire....Come on, Jerry...
5. RUTH: No, wait. Please, Mr. Robbins....Is there a munitions factory
6. across the mountains? Is there?
7. ROY: Ruth, I'm not goin' to tell you again...
8. RUTH: Is there, Mr. Robbins?
9. JIM: I can't tell you, Miss. I got no call to tell you what's across
10. RUTH: Then there is. I know there is. And that's where Tom's working.
11. He might've been.....
12. ROY: Ruth, you crazy fool. It's a brick, don't you see? They ain't
13. got nothing they can pin on us.
14. RUTH: No, Pa. I believe Mr. Robbins. And we're wrong, Pa, dead wrong
15. about this whole thing... Mr. Robbins, we did go up there in
16. Wagon Canyon like Pa said. We made a fire to smoke the bees.
17. And while we were gone the fire got out and burned our blankets
18. and Pa's coat and set the woods afire. I wanted to try to stop
19. it but Pa, he said we wouldn't have a chance without no fire
20. tools so we hid the stuff and come on home. That's the truth,
21. Mr. Robbins. The gospel truth.
22. JIM: Well, Haskin?
23. ROY: You heard the girl, Robbins. That's what happened, all of it.
24. RUTH: I had to tell 'em, Pa. Don't you see? For Tom's sake as well
25. as our own.

O.K. But we'll be back, Haskin. We'll be back and there'll be
 no question about our authority either. With the evidence we
 got I reckon we won't have much trouble in establishing
 responsibility for that Wagon Canyon fire.... Come on, Jerry...
 No, wait, please, Mr. Robbins... Is there a munitions factory
 across the mountains is there?
 Ruth, I'm not going to tell you again...
 Is there, Mr. Robbins?
 I can't tell you, Miss. I got no call to tell you what's across
 Then there is. I know there is. And that's where Tom's working.
 He might've been...
 Ruth, you crazy fool. It's a trick, don't you see? They ain't
 got nothing they can do on us.
 No, Pa. I believe Mr. Robbins. And we're wrong, Pa, dead wrong
 about this whole thing... Mr. Robbins, we did go up there in
 Wagon Canyon like Pa said. We made a fire to smoke the bees.
 And while we were gone the fire got out and burned our blankets
 and Pa's coat and set the woods afire. I wanted to try to stop
 it but Pa, he said we wouldn't have a chance without no fire
 tools so we hid the stuff and come on home. That's the truth,
 Mr. Robbins. The gospel truth.
 Well, Haskin?
 You heard the girl, Robbins. That's what happened, all of it.
 I had to tell 'em, Pa. Don't you see? For Tom's sake as well
 as our own.

JIM: 1.
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 RUTH: 5.
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 ROY: 8.
 RUTH: 9.
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 JIM: 11.
 RUTH: 12.
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 ROY: 14.
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 RUTH: 16.
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 JIM: 22.
 ROY: 23.
 RUTH: 24.
 25.

1. ROY: Well, what're we waitin' for, Hobbins? Let's go on down to the
2. Justice of the Peace and get it overwith. I'm the feller you
3. want..And I reckon the girl's right. We shouldn't a tried to
4. hide anything..Come on let's go.

5. JIM: Wait a minute, Haskin..Ruth, I want to thank you for helping
6. us clear this up. I can't tell you just where that munition
7. factory is, but I reckon I can tell you this. You brother, Tom,
8. was called to help put out that fire. And he's all right, Tom,
9. is...Now, Haskin, I reckon we WADE) might as well roll along
10. to town.

11. MUSICAL FINALE

12. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week as a network
13. presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United
14. States Department of Agriculture.

25. fr:
7/22/42

Well, what're we waitin' for, 'Hobbin' let's go on down to the
Justice of the Peace and get it overwith. I'm the feller you
want. And I reckon the girl's right. We shouldn't a tried to
hide anything. Come on let's go.
Wait a minute, Haskin. Ruth, I want to thank you for helping
us clear this up. I can't tell you just where that munition
factory is, but I reckon I can tell you this. You brother, Tom,
was called to help put out that fire. And he's all right, Tom.
is... Now, Haskin, I reckon we MADE might as well roll along
to town.

ROY:

JIM:

MUSICAL FINALE

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week as a network
presentation with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United
States Department of Agriculture.

ANNOUNCER:

7/25/42